

# Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

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## News

### **“Delaware Day 2020 — Expanding the Delaware Story”**

Videos explore the lives of four enslaved individuals and an abolitionist.

[Read more ...](#)



Screen shot from the “Expanding the Delaware Story” video about Bishop Richard Allen.

### **Division to sponsor four virtual-programs during December 2020**

Wreath making; Elizabeth Battell, proprietrix of the Golden Fleece Tavern; season’s eatings; and Delaware’s canning history to be explored.

[Read more ...](#)

### **“At Home Concert Series” videos posted on division’s YouTube channel**

Series showcased musicians from across the state and region.

[Read more ...](#)

### **Johnson Victrola Museum reopens second floor; adds displays**

Gallery had been closed since June 2020.

[Read more ...](#)

### **Sussex Gardeners to decorate Zwaanendael Museum for the holidays**

Decorations presented in conjunction with the Lewes Lights event.

[Read more ...](#)

### **Winner of New Castle photo contest announced**

Contest challenged amateur photographers to submit images of what makes Delaware’s first capital city unique.

[Read more ...](#)

### **Division welcomes two new historic-site interpreters**

Jenna Atkinson and Larry Lang join, respectively, the staffs of the Zwaanendael Museum and Old State House.

[Read more ...](#)

### **Division museums open with tours by appointment**

Tours allow visitors to experience the history of the First State while continuing to take all recommended steps to safeguard public health.

[Read more ...](#)

[Go here for more news items ...](#)

## **Help Save Delaware History**

### **Wilmington industrial complex listed in the National Register**

American Vulcanized Fibre Company was the oldest-known, consolidated-commercial, manufacturer of vulcanized fibre in the world.

[Read more ...](#)

### **New Castle County moves to boost historic preservation efforts**

Delaware Public Media, Dover — Oct. 30, 2020

County passes ordinance designed to reduce “demolition by neglect.”

[Read More ...](#)

### **“Partners in Preservation: Planning for the Future — Delaware’s Historic Preservation Plan, 2018–2022”**

Document outlines six broad goals for preserving Delaware’s heritage for the future.

[Read more ...](#)

## **Media Roundup**

The following Delaware history-related articles have recently appeared in the media:

### **Articles exploring First State history and culture in the wake of Joe Biden’s election as president**

[Delaware is famous for corporations, chemicals, chickens — and now, finally, a president](#)

Washington Post, D.C. — Nov. 16, 2020

[Travelers invited to sample discoveries in president-elect’s home state](#)

Coastal Point, Ocean View, Del. — Nov. 16, 2020

### **Articles on Delaware cultural sites**

Coverage includes segments on the Zwaanendael Museum.

[6 Spots Where the World Comes to Delaware](#)

Atlas Obscura, online — Nov. 14, 2020

[Dutch Heritage, Coastal Defense & Masonry Meet on the Delaware Coast](#)

Scottish Rite Journal, Washington, D.C. — Nov./Dec. 2020

## **Events**

### **Saturday, Dec. 5**

[Holiday Open House](#) – Virtual program from Hale-Byrnes House

[Dr. Joseph Warren, the American Revolution’s Lost Hero](#) – Virtual program from Hale-Byrnes House

**Sunday, Dec. 6**  
[Caesar Rodney](#) – Virtual program from Hale-Byrnes House

**Friday, Dec. 11**  
[Concert by Rick Hudson and Tom Hensch](#) – The Old State House

**Saturday, Dec. 12**  
[Season's Greetings: Wreath Making in New Castle](#) – Virtual program from the New Castle Court House Museum

**Wednesday, Dec. 16**  
[A Conversation with Elizabeth Battell](#) – Virtual program from The Old State House

**Friday, Dec. 18**  
[Seasons Eatings: A Taste of Holiday Dinners in the 1920s](#) – Virtual program from the Johnson Victrola Museum

**Saturday, Dec. 19**  
[Capturing Canning History Through Cooking](#) – Virtual program from the Zwaanendael Museum

For a comprehensive, long-term calendar of division-sponsored events, [go here](#).

## Exhibits and Displays

The five museums of the State of Delaware are currently presenting the following exhibits and displays. In keeping with Gov. Carney's [Phase II guidance](#) for reopening the state in wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the museums are open for self-guided tours [via reservation only](#).

**Ongoing**  
[Delaware Railroads: Elegant Travel and Timely Transport](#) – Zwaanendael Museum

[Drawing America to Victory: The Persuasive Power of the Arts in World War I](#) – Online

[Five Stories](#) – John Dickinson Plantation

[Letters From a Farmer in Pennsylvania](#) – Online

[New Castle: Three Forts, One Community](#) – New Castle Court House Museum

[The Old State House: A True Restoration 1976-2016](#) – The Old State House

[The Path to Freedom: A History of the Underground Railroad in Delaware](#) – New Castle Court House Museum

[Sculpture by Charles Parks](#) – New Castle Court House Museum

[A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World](#) – Zwaanendael Museum

[Simple Machines](#) – John Dickinson Plantation

For additional opportunities to explore Delaware history online, go to the [Delaware Digital History Museum](#).





DELAWARE HISTORICAL  
& CULTURAL AFFAIRS

## Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic-preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

Historical and Cultural Affairs is designed to stimulate public interest in the division's museums, programs and services, and to increase awareness of the value that history and historic preservation bring to the lives of Delaware's citizens and visitors. The newsletter is distributed during the last week of each month, via e-mail, to division staff members, Delaware's historical- and preservation-related communities and friends. Please submit relevant articles, news items and suggestions to Jim Yurasek, newsletter editor, at [jim.yurasek@delaware.gov](mailto:jim.yurasek@delaware.gov).

### Non-Discrimination Statement and Acknowledgement of Support

If you would like to be added to, or removed from, the e-newsletter mailing list, please e-mail the editor.

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